

Algona High School

Edited by: AJ Wagner Micah Lavrenz

April 5, 2012

FFA Banquet

Janet Hofmann

The annual FFA Banquet for Algona High School FFA members took place on Tuesday, March 27th. The awards banquet began with a welcome by Nathan Skallerup, who also recognized important guests. A.J. Wagner provided the invocation and then the meal began. The meal was a steak supper with steaks cooked by the Cattleman's group.

Throughout the banquet, many awards and certificates were handed out. Twenty-one new FFA students received the Greenhand pin. The silver pin of the Chapter FFA Degree was awarded to 11 students. A.J. Wagner received both the Chapter Star in Agricultural Business and the Outstanding Member Award for 2012.

A.J. was also awarded the Brandon Divis Blue & Gold Scholarship award.

Other agriculture scholarships awarded were the Hollis G. and Jean E. Benschoter Endowment Fund to Brad Bjstrom, the George Sefrit Scholarship to Tyler Laubenthal, the Gordon Hilbert Memorial Scholarship to Malory Bormann, and the Iowa Lakes Community College Soils Clinic Scholarship to Tyler Laubenthal and Lee Wegener.

The banquet then concluded with the election of new officers. Morgan Muller was elected as President, Brie Walker as Vice President, Secretary Vanessa Arndorfer, Treasurer Clinton Schutjer, and Sentinel McCain Jennings.

"There was a lot of money raised for FFA through donations and the food was delish!" said Zach McKenna of the banquet.

Chorus trip thoughts

"There were many fun experiences in Nashville."

-Nicole Kenne

"Attractive cowboys!"

-Joanna Wilson

"It was a great time!"

-Madi Jennings

"If you're an Elvis fan, Graceland is the place to be!"

-Leah Hamilton

"It was definitely a good experience."

-Bethany Laddusaw

"I love cowboys."

-Katlyn Loeschen

"Randy Montana winked at me & Rachel Hamilton."

-Tawny Schultz

"It was a lot of fun and a great experience."

-Ben Hutchison

"Mrs. Warrant wanted to be me!"

-Emily Banwart

"We had a lot of shopping time."

-Makayla Metzger

"The Grand Ole Opry was amazing! I never thought I'd be there."

-Ben Larson

"I'm happy that I didn't break anything."

-Scott Haas

"It was a good time."

-Allison Bryant

"Elvis is totally fetch."

-Rachel Hamilton

In full swing

Sam Curtis

The golf teams have both started practice and are going strong. Practice started for the girls on Monday, March 12th. The boys got going a week later, on Monday, the 19th. The teams are working hard to get ready for their first meets, which are both on April 10th when they will both go to Estherville.

The boys' team is coached by Mike Ford and has a good number of seniors who are pointing towards a good season for the Bulldogs. They return three time letterwinner and three time All Conference golfer Chris Grether, who is looking to make some noise this year. Other seniors out for golf this year are Samuel Lipps, Gavin Meyer, Matthew Bartelt, Will Chipman, Jacob Foust, Tyler Franzen, Weston Harms, Jesse Heyer,

Bryce Hoffman, Nathan Kardoes, Chris Post, Ben Overstreet, and Ethan Simpson. The boys' record last season was 15-29 & they are hoping for a better season this year.

The girls' team also returns one of their top golfers in senior co-captain Catherine Edgerton. The other co-captain is senior Emily Prilipp, who is hoping for a great season this year. Other seniors for the Dogs include Giulia Dawtjan, Rachel Feuring, Rachel Hamilton, Janet Hofmann, and Breanna Johnson. The girls' record last season was 26-16 and they hope to continue their success.

If you see any golfers in the halls in the coming weeks, be sure to wish them good luck.

Let's go racin'

Katie Riley

The 2012 racing season at Algona Raceway begins on Saturday, April 7. Hot laps start at 6:30 p.m. and go until 7:00 p.m. and then the classes start racing. The cost to get into the races is \$12.00 this year. The track is a .4 mile oval dirt track where all ages of men and women race.

There are many classes of race cars that race at Algona. The car classes that race are IMCA Modified, IMCA Stock Cars, IMCA Sportmods, IMCA Hobby Stocks, Pro Hornets, Novice Hornets, and Cruisers.

Some students from AHS participate in the racing season, such as Taylor Kuper and Jacob Kofoot,

who are racing a Cruiser together. Last year Taylor Kuper was track champion racing a Hornet. Some more people who race from AHS are Micah Lavrenz, racing IMCA Hobby Stocks, Alex Smith, who races Hornet, Patrick Murray, who races Hornets, and Tate McCurry is racing IMCA Sportsmod.

Jacob Kofoot says, "Since this is my first year racing, I am very nervous but at the same time very excited to get the opportunity to go out there and share a car with Taylor Kuper."

We wish everyone the best of luck in this 2012 racing season at Algona Raceway!

March madness

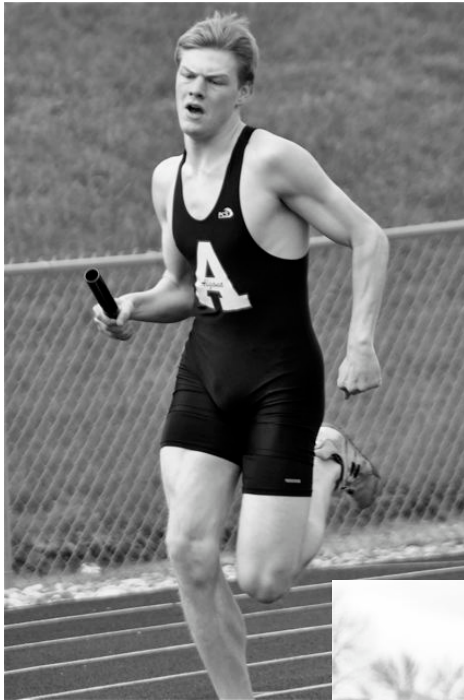
Vandy

The NFL off-season has been hot this year and it has picked up some heat. After Payton Manning was signed by Denver, this left the team with no choice but to trade quarterback Tim Tebow to the Jets for draft picks. Tebow met with Jets officials and it has been planned this year that he will share time with current starter Mark Sanchez, in the team's new offense built for two quarterbacks. The news comes off of Sanchez being on the hot seat as he was blamed for some of the team's misfortune this previous year, leading to an 8-8 record.

Also the punishments for the Saints' bounty were announced including suspensions for the general manager, fines, and head coach Sean Payton was suspended for the whole year. The Saints are in the appeal process and will meet with the league Thursday to state why they should have the appeals reduced or extinguished.

SENIORS
IN GOLF!





Left: Christian Parker competes at the Early Bird Relays.



Right: Morgan Goche soars over the hurdles at the Early Bird Relays.

Starting off right

Taylor Setzer

The boys' track team started off well with the Early Bird Relays on Thursday, March 29th. The team had many first place finishes including: Michael Erpelding in the 200 and 100 meter dash, the 200 meter dash with a time of 22.01 seconds, and the 100 with a time of 10.84 seconds. Also placing first for the Bulldogs was Bo Hjelle in the 800 meter run and the 1600 meter run. In the 800 meter run, Bo had a time of 2:06.62 and a time of 4:48.27 for the 1600 meter run. Luke Arrowood won high jump for the team with a jump of 6 feet.

The track team also had many second place finishes as well. The distance medley team of Luke Arrowood, Dylan Cink, Jeremy Rurup, and Christain Parker placed second, along with the 4x8 team of Christain Parker, Bo Hjelle, Mason Altman, and Adam Poepppe. The 4x2 of Ethan Peoppe, PJ McMahon, Dylan Cink, and Joe Teague also placed second as well as Weston Shaw in long jump with a jump of 19 feet.

The boys had their first Conference meet in Eagle Grove on Tuesday,

April 3rd, and their second in Humboldt on Thursday, April 5th. Their next meet will be on Tuesday, April 10th, in Clear Lake.

The girls also took part in the Early Bird Relays on Thursday. The team had many first place finishes including: Paige Yi in the 200 meter dash, Tangy Wiseman in the 800 meter run and the 3000 meter run, Rachel Teague in the 1500 meter run, the 4x400 team of Amber Lenz, Tangy Wiseman, Jenna Reding, and Paige Yi. Also placing first was the distance medley team of Tiffany Long, Amber Lenz, Rachel Teague, and Paige Yi.

The girls' team also had many second place finishes including: the 4x800 relay team, the 4x100 relay team, the 800 sprint medley relay, and Courtney Groen in the 200 meter dash.

The team had their first Conference meet in Clear Lake on Tuesday, April 3rd. Their next meet will be next Tuesday, April 10th, in Lake Mills.

Congratulations to all track participants and good luck in your upcoming competitions and events.

NASCAR

Zach McKenna

The 2012 NASCAR season is up and running. Right now the leader in the Sprint Cup Series is Greg Biffle with 226 points, followed closely Dale Earnhardt Jr. with 220 points and Tony Stewart with 214 points.

Last week's March 25th race was at Fontana and was a tough one but Tony Stewart came up with the win.

The winners for the

2012 race season so far are Matt Kenseth, Denny Hamlin, Tony Stewart (twice), and Brad Keselowski.

"In last week's race there was an issue with fuel and flat tires, but I think they got it all figured out now," said Dylan Cink.

Next week's race is in Texas for the Samsung Mobile 500 at 7 p.m on Sunday, April 14.

The Hunger Games

DJ Throckmorton

Gary Ross brings Suzanne Collins' novel, *The Hunger Games*, to life with Jennifer Lawrence as Katniss Everdeen, Josh Hutcherson as Peeta Mellark, and Woody Harrelson as Haymitch Abernathy.

All odds are against her when sixteen year old Katniss Everdeen, from district 12, volunteers to take her sister's place in the seventy-fourth annual Hunger Games. With the archery skills she's developed from hunting illegally to feed her family outside the fence of district 12, she might just stand a chance, but to even hope to survive she must first make a choice between humanity and survival.

Based on the *New*

York Times' best selling novel by Suzanne Collins, in an apocalyptic future in the ruins of North America is the nation of Panem, a grand capital surrounded by 12 outlining districts. After a civil war between the capital and the 12 districts, the Hunger Games were created. The 12 districts must supply two tributes, one of each gender, between the ages of 12 and 18. All twenty-four tributes must compete in a televised fight to the death.

This PG-13 rated movie runs two hours and 22 minutes. Nicole Kenne said, "It'll keep you on the edge of your seat." It is currently showing at Algona State 5 Theater.

Warehouse 13

Jeremy Black

After saving the life of the President in Washington D.C., a pair of U.S Secret Service agents, Myka Bering and Peter Lattimer, are forced into a covert location in South Dakota. The warehouse houses supernatural objects that the Regents, an authority above and outside any government, have collected over the centuries. The artifacts react with electricity and can be neutralized. Their first view on the assignment is that it is punishment. As they go about their assignments to retrieve missing Warehouse 13 artifacts and investigate reports of new ones, they come to understand the importance of what they're doing. Their new assignment: retrieve any lost objects and investigate reports of new ones.

In the series, artifacts are items connected to some historical or mythological figure or event. Each artifact

has a little extra something special added from their creator, user, or a major event in history. Some of them are well known. Lewis Carroll's looking glass, which is a portal to a mirrored world full of evil versions of the show's characters. Poe's pen and a volume of his writing is there, which turns whatever is written into reality. Some of the artifacts are just straight made up. Lizzie Borden had a mirrored compact that today compels users to kill their loved ones with an axe! Marilyn Monroe owned a brush that now turns its user's hair platinum blonde.

Warehouse 13 has renewed for a fourth season. The news came as a surprise. This summer check out the Syfy station and like the show! :)

NISCA

Kuleen Parsons

NISCA stands for the North Iowa Saddle Club Association and they have at least six horse shows each summer. NISCA is for the whole family! Any age group can show in NISCA. You can have a great time making new friends and working with your horse.

NISCA has showmanship, halter, horsemanship, walk trot, western pleasure, and also English! Not only do you get to show in all these classes but they also have barrels, poles, Texas flag race, and jumping

figure eight. All these events have age groups that are 8 and under, 9 - 13, 14 - 18, and 19 and over. At NISCA shows there is plenty of nice people to help if you need it.

The first NISCA show of this year will be held on May 13 at the North Iowa Fairgrounds and they are going to start with halter/ showmanship. Anyone is welcome to come show, but if you want year end awards, you have to have a number and be a member of a saddle club. Most of the

NISCA shows are on Sundays and they do last all day but they are a lot of fun!

Whether you're just starting out or have the showing experience, the North Iowa Saddle Club Association is for you! All the rules and horse show information is at the website www.niscashows.com. Have a great show season!

School News

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Casey Heinen

Jessica Mueller

Casey Heinen was born in Algona, Iowa. She has one sister, Clarissa. In her free time, she likes to hang out with friends and listen to music. Her favorite activity is sleeping. Casey works at Hy-Vee. She has been working there for two years.

Casey's favorite high school memory is watching Aaron Bixby dance in the hallway. She was a basketball manager for three years and a volleyball manager for four years.

She plans on go-

ing to Buena Vista in Storm Lake. Casey wants to major in biology/chiropractor. A quote Casey likes is, "If you're not living life on the edge, you're taking up too much space." Casey is also an awesome guesser.



Shadowing a legislator

Sawyer Brandt

In April of 2012, high school juniors get the opportunity to work in the "Capitol Project." It is a hands-on, three day program working with the legislative process. Day one was on Monday, April 2nd, while day two was the following day. The event was hosted by Secretary of State Matt Schultz.

The kids picked is-

sues, drafted mock legislation, debated, lobbied, and then voted on their legislative packages. They interacted with statewide officials, legislators, and lobbyists during the event.

Tanisha Buck, Matt Stein, and Amanda Hibner were the juniors selected from AHS to attend this event.

Rock Iowa

Rachel Feuring

On Thursday, March 22, Matt Schultz, Iowa's Secretary of State, came to Algona High to inform American Studies students on the voting process. The voting process includes, one, find your polling place, two, be prepared, and three, don't leave without voting.

Schultz had an interactive activity where two "candidates," Mason Altman and Abby Smith, pre-

sented their views on issues that the "voters," the whole class, brought up.

The students then voted for a winner and Mason Altman won! The students learned a lot about the voting process and students who are eligible to vote received a voting registration paper and were encouraged to register. So get out and Rock the Vote!

Mrs. Spear

Brandee Hockett

Mrs. Spear was born in Algona, Iowa, in 1981. She grew up with two brothers, who now live in Des Moines and Bondurant. Her parents are Chuck and Shelly Robinson. She attended schooling in Burt, Iowa, and then went to middle school in Algona and attended Algona High.

Mrs. Spear went to college at the University of Northern Iowa where she got her BA in English and a minor in coaching and reading. She student taught at Emmetsburg before getting her job at AHS.

At AHS she teaches Journalism, American Literature, Reading/Test Tak-

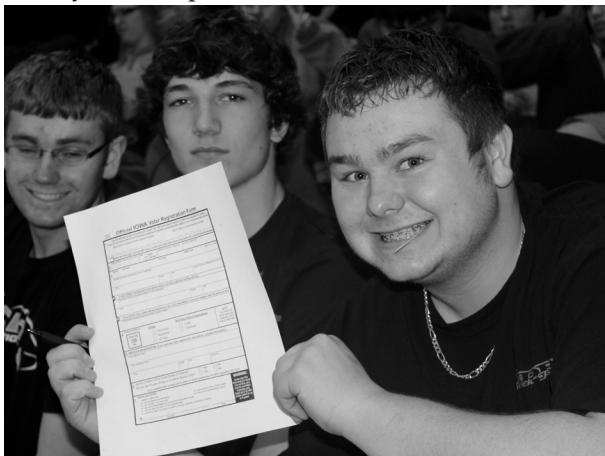
ing Strategies, Composition, and other electives. She has been teaching at Algona for 9 years.

In her free time she loves to play with her kids, take them to the park, hang out with her family, scrapbook, read, be outside, and play sports. She has three kids, Jaden is 6, Emma is 3, and Coyer is 1. Mrs. Spear has been married for 10 years as of June to Mark. Something you might not know about Mrs. Spear is that she shook Bob Barker's hand.

Nathyn Trenary states, "Mrs. Spear brightens my day!"



Right: Clinton Schutjer and Colin Julius pose with their Rock the Vote ballot.



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Sate Solo/Small Ensemble Festival

Jackie Brunow

On March 24, 2012, Algona High School hosted nine schools and nearly 700 musicians. 82 of those students represented AHS.

52 band members participated in the festival, each earning at least one Division I rating. 38 vocalists participated in at least one Division I performance.

Out of 134 instrumental Division I (superior) ratings awarded at Saturday's festival, AHS instrumental performances earned 33. Also, 14 Division II (excellent) rating and 3 Division III (good) rating were awarded to AHS instrumental musicians.

Out of 90 vocal Division I rating awarded at the festival, AHS vocal performances earned 20. Other AHS vocal performances earned 12 Division II and 2

Division III ratings.

Four Algona High School students earned recognition at Saturday's festival. Senior Dan Haack earned an Outstanding Performance Award for his trumpet solo. Seniors Emily Banwart, Jade Simpson, and Jeni Zeller earned an Outstanding Performance Award for their marimba trio.



Above: Concert Choir Division I Recipients

Right:
Mixed
Chorus
Division I
Recipients



Leaving Iowa!

Megan Crosser

This year's spring play has begun! The cast auditioned during the week of March 12th through the 16th, and rehearsal started on March 19th. There is a total of 35 in the show including cast and crew who have rehearsals every day after school starting at 7 o'clock and usually lasting till about 9:15.

This year's play is called *Leaving Iowa* and is much different than most plays put on by AHS. This script is a film noir, which describes more of Hollywood dramas. It's more of a memory involving a family on a vacation who are also coming to terms with their father passing away. It is funny, with some heart feeling moments included.

The cast will perform to the public on May 12th and 14th, both at 7:30. Nicole Kenne said, "It will be loads of fun, come watch if you want a good laugh!" Mark your calendars, you won't want to miss this!



Below: Instrumental Music Division I Recipients

